

PUBLIC HEARING

Newton

**NH Route 108, Amesbury Road, and Maple Ave
January 19, 2023**

**State Project 29617
Federal Project #X-A004(206)**

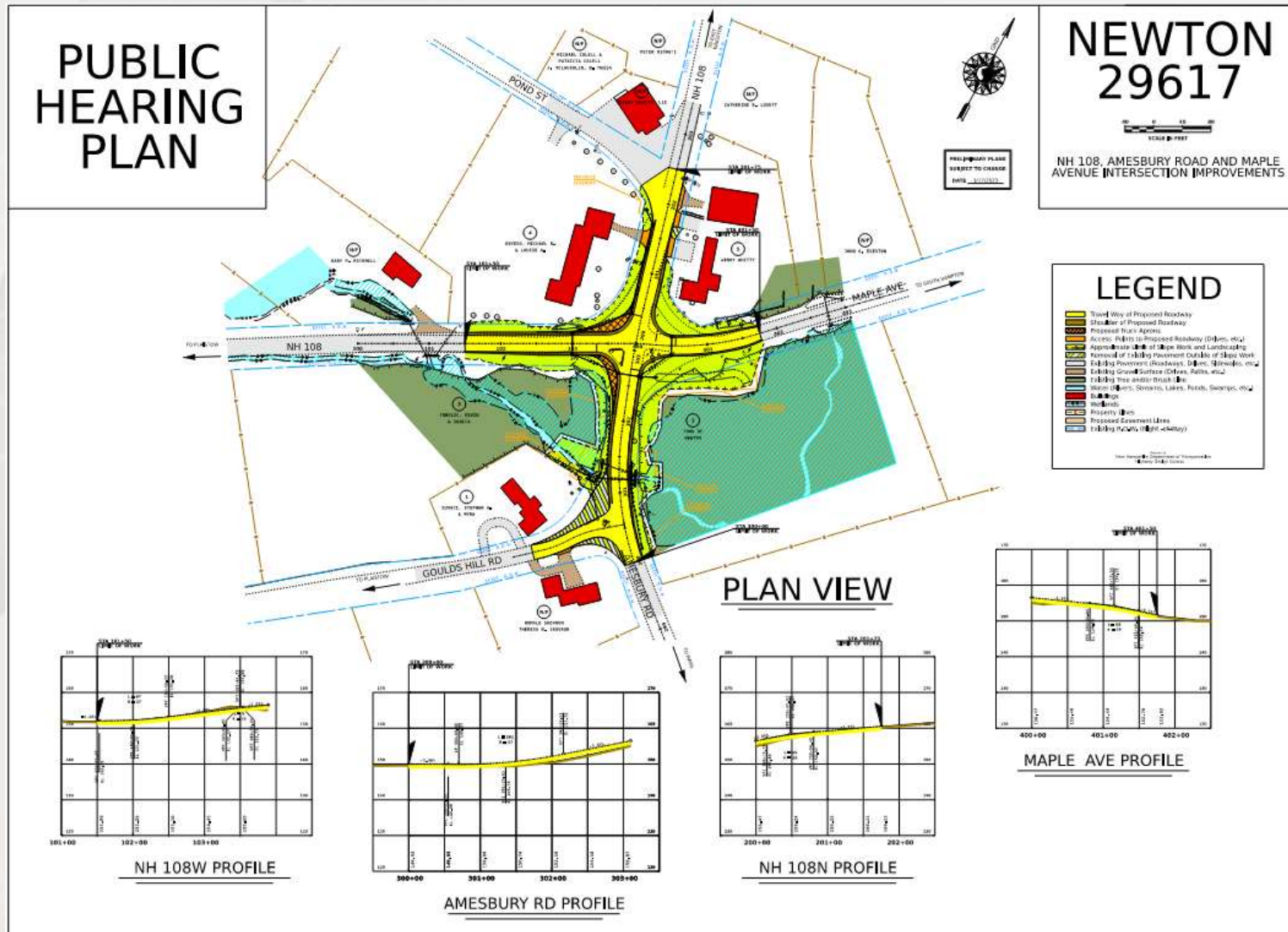
Hearing Commission

***Executive Councilor Janet Stevens, Chairperson
Chris Jacobs
Charles Melvin Sr.***

Agenda

- **Chairpersons Opening Statement**
- **Project Description**
- **Purpose / Need**
- **Project History**
- **Proposed Alternative**
- **Environmental Process/Resources**
- **Bureau of Right-of-Way Acquisition Process**
- **Conclusion and Next Steps**
- **Comments and Contact Information**

Chairperson's Opening Statement



Newton 29617
Public Hearing
January 19, 2023

Presenters

- **Gisela Weber – Moderator (NHDOT)**
- **Tim Dunn, PE – Project Manager (NHDOT)**
- **Hans Weber, PE – Design Lead (NHDOT)**
- **Rebecca Martin – Environmental Manager (NHDOT)**
- **Steve LaBonte – Right-of-Way Administrator (NHDOT)**

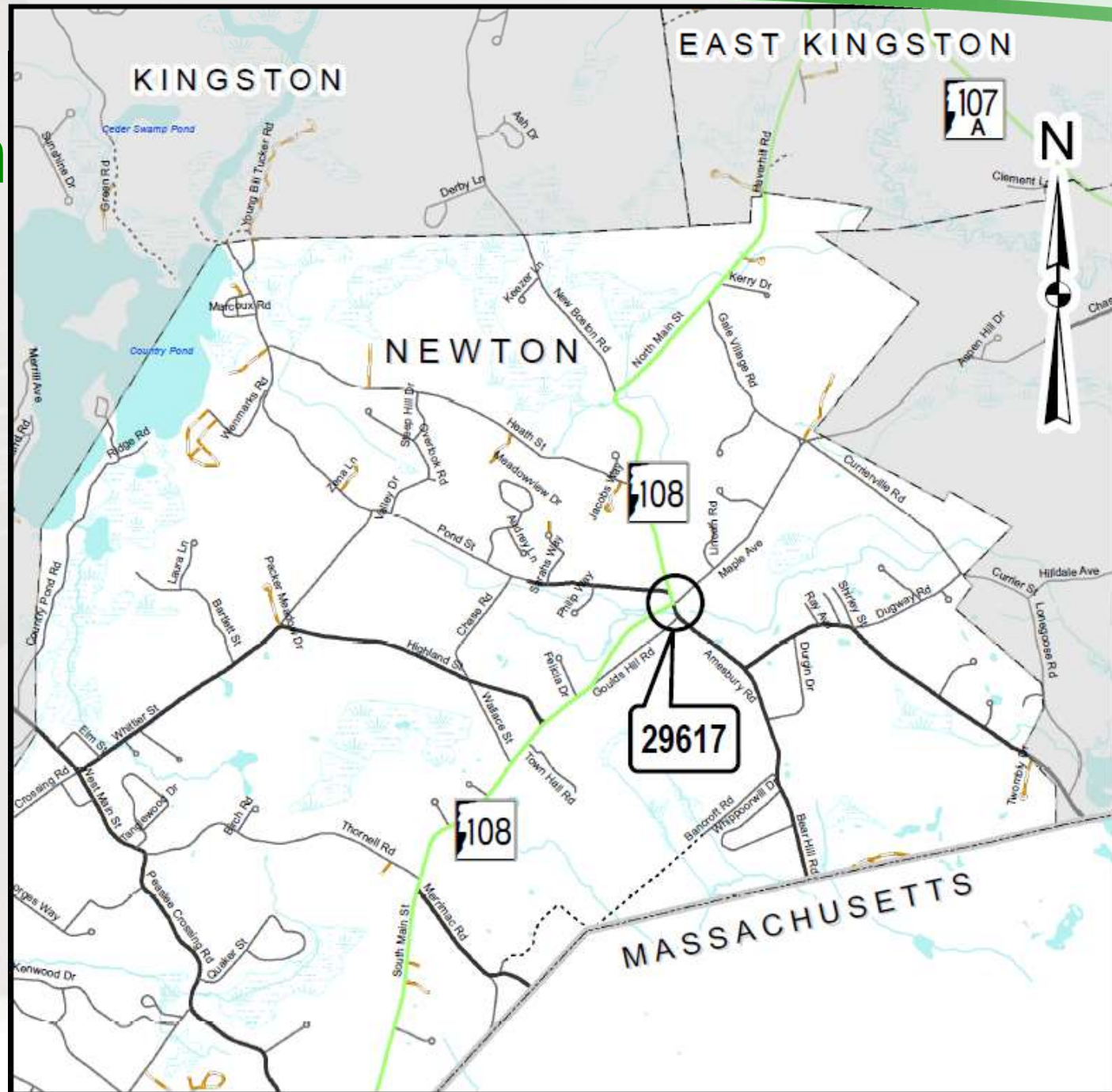
Other Key Project Members

- **Dan Prehemo, PE – Group Leader (NHDOT)**
- **Emma Bell, EIT – Design Team (NHDOT)**

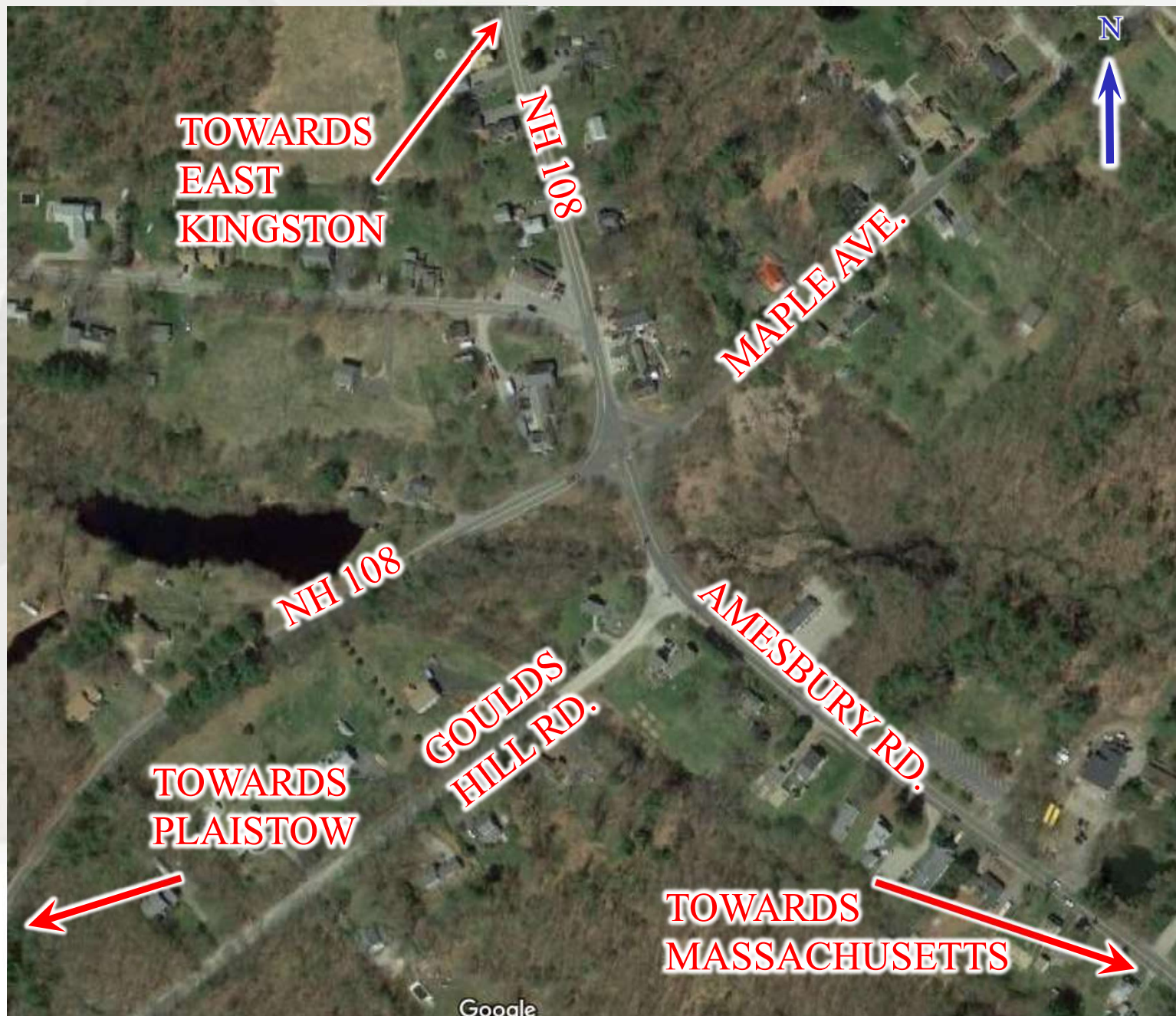
Project Description

The project is located in Newton at the intersection of NH Route 108, Amesbury Road and Maple Avenue, also known as Rowe's Corner. The project extends approximately 175 feet north and 225 feet west along NH Route 108, 250 feet south along Amesbury Road and 175 feet east on Maple Avenue.

Project Location



Project Location



Project Purpose and Need

Improve the intersection operation and address safety concerns.

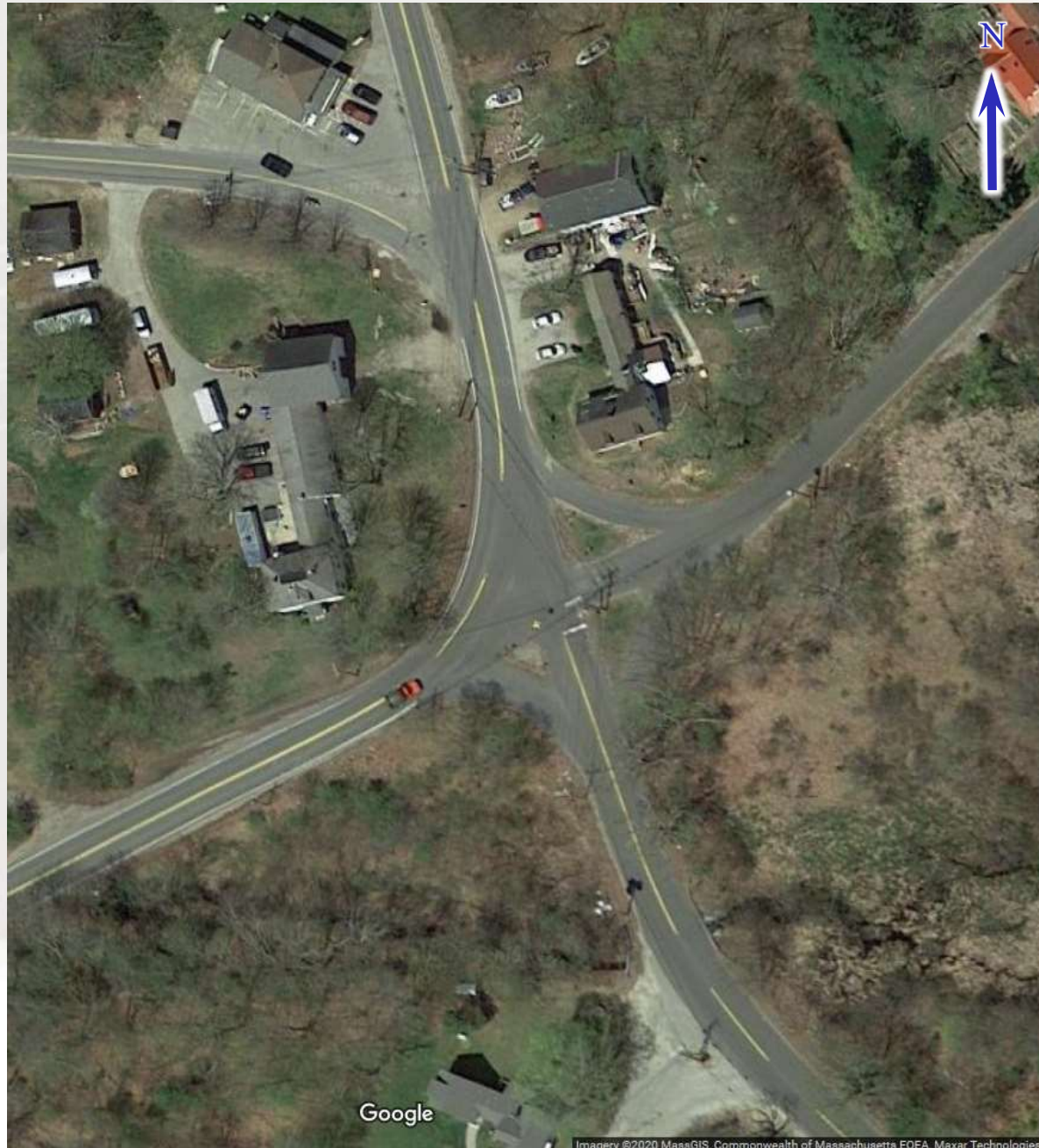
NH Route 108 (North Main Street) has free-flow movement through the intersection and curves sharply through the intersection. Amesbury Road and Maple Avenue are stop controlled at the intersection. This combination of a sharply curved free-flow on NH Route 108 and stop control of the other two roads and multiple slip ramps leads to driver uncertainty at the intersection. There were 15 accidents reported at the intersection between 2009 and 2018.

Project History

- Plan NH Charrette (2009)
- Rowes Corner Concept Plan (2011)
- NHDOT Engineering Study (2013)
- Project added to the State's 2017-2026 Ten Year Plan (TYP)
- Design work initiated in 2018
- Public Officials Meeting held on September 4th, 2018
- Public Informational Meeting held on August 13th, 2020
- Amesbury Road culvert replacement added to scope
- Goulds Hill Road realignment added to scope
- Public Hearing held on January 19th, 2023

Proposed Alternative

Existing Conditions



Existing Conditions



NH Route 108
Looking South at
Amesbury Road












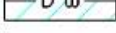



Existing Conditions

Traffic Volume (2022): <i>(*AADT: Annual Average Daily Traffic)</i>	4430 AADT – NH 108 3810 AADT – Amesbury Rd. 1120 AADT – Maple Ave.
Posted Speed Limit:	30 MPH – NH 108 35 MPH – Amesbury Rd. 30 MPH – Maple Ave.
Lane Width:	Varies 11'-12'
Shoulder Width:	Varies 0'-3'
Right of Way Width:	Varies 50'-66'
Crash Data 2009-2018:	15 crashes during this period

Design Considerations:

- Safety
- Traffic Flow
- Property Impacts
- Environmental Aspects
 - Historic, Wetlands, Stream Crossing, Threatened & Endangered Species, and Water Quality

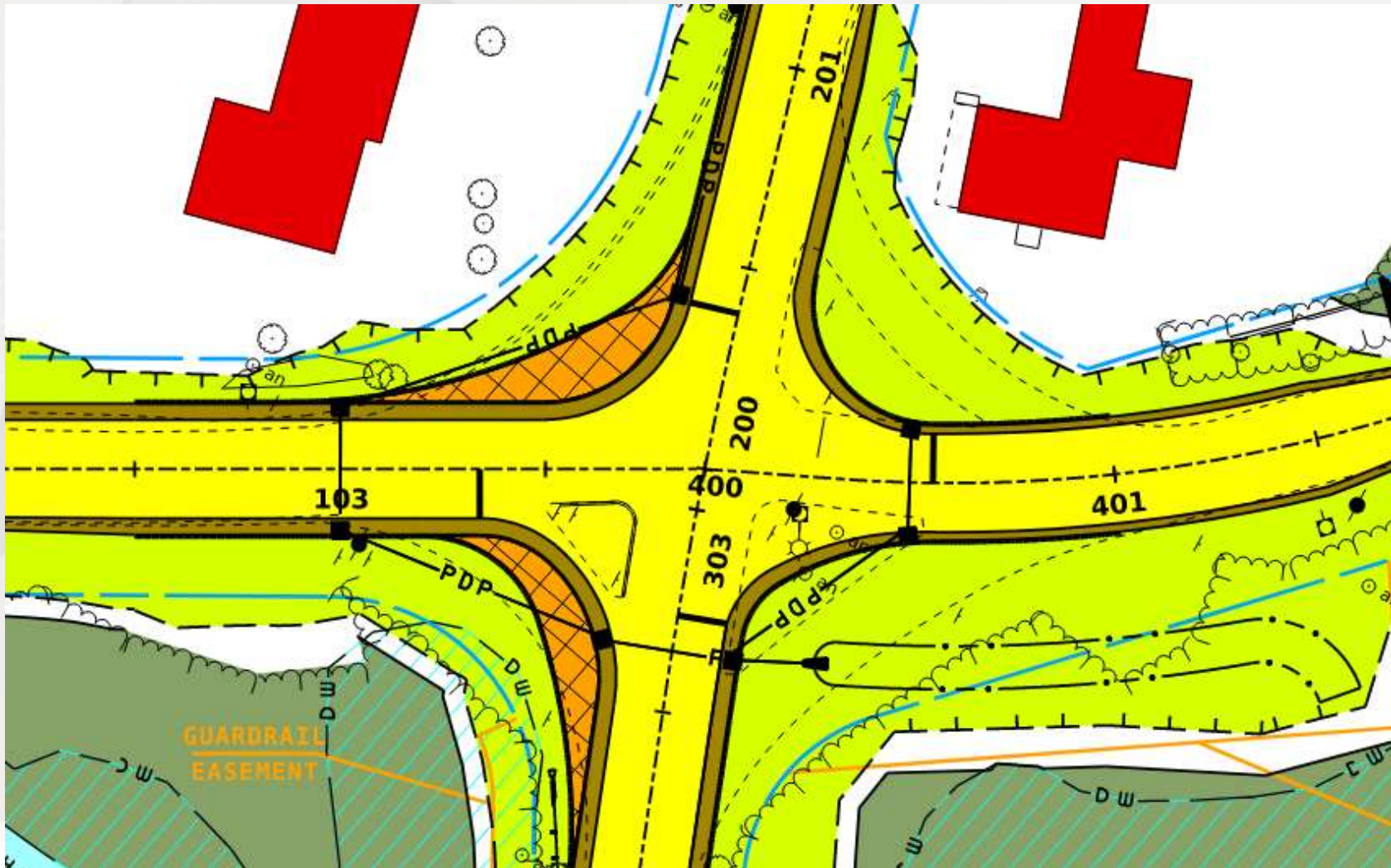
LEGEND

	Travel Way of Proposed Roadway
	Shoulder of Proposed Roadway
	Proposed Truck Aprons
	Access Points to Proposed Roadway (Drives, etc.)
	Approximate Limit of Slope Work and Landscaping
	Removal of Existing Pavement Outside of Slope Work
	Existing Pavement (Roadways, Drives, Sidewalks, etc.)
	Existing Gravel Surface (Drives, Paths, etc.)
	Existing Tree and/or Brush Line
	Water (Rivers, Streams, Lakes, Ponds, Swamps, etc.)
	Buildings
	Wetlands
	Property Lines
	Proposed Easement Lines
	Existing R.O.W. (Right -of-Way)

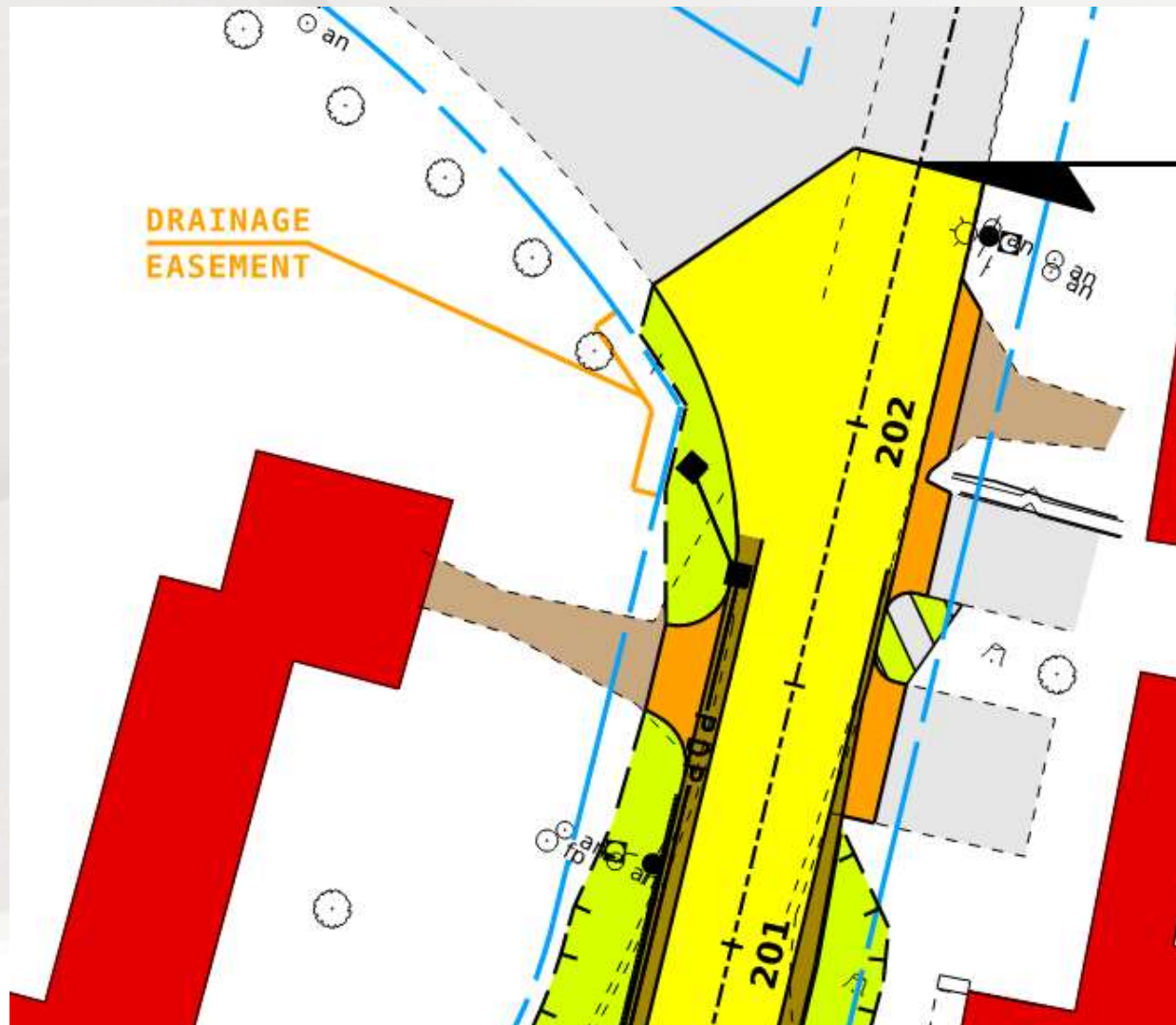
Prepared By
New Hampshire Department of Transportation
Highway Design Bureau

See Public Hearing Plan

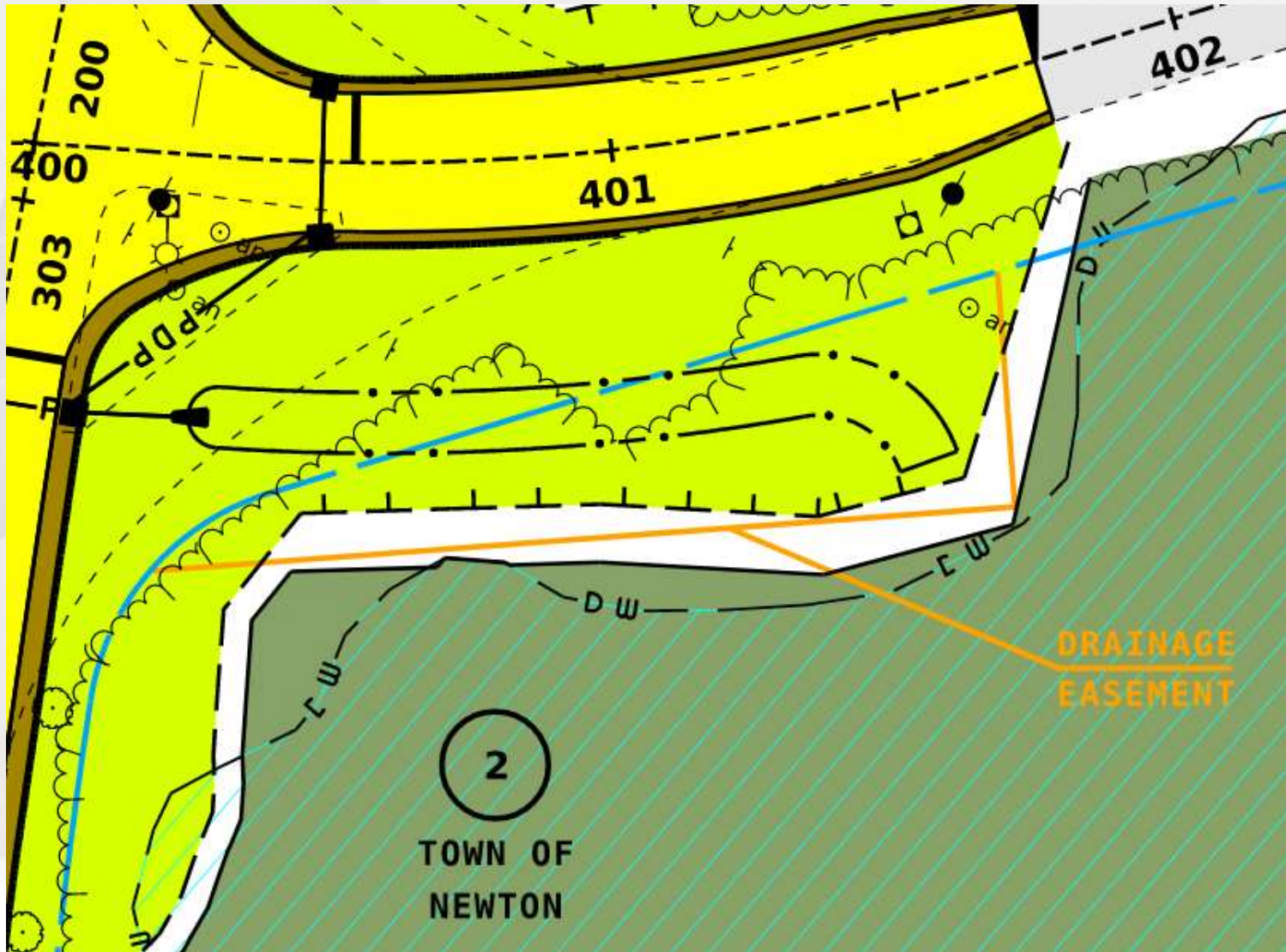
Proposed Action: At Intersection



Proposed Action: North of Intersection

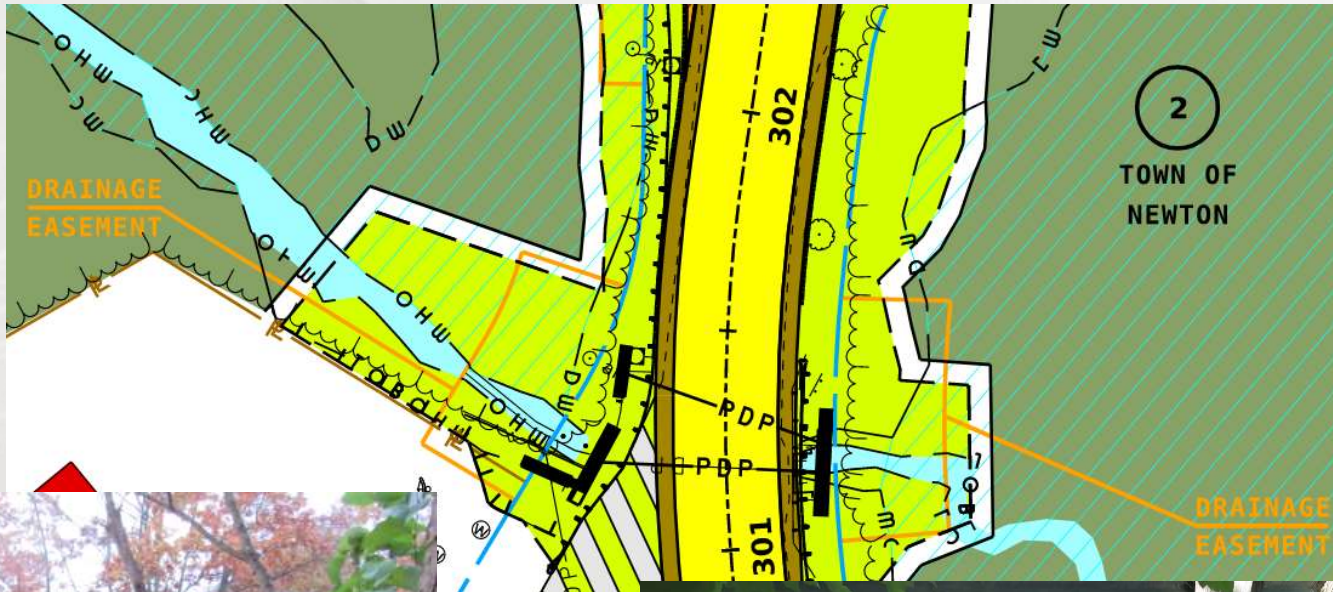


Proposed Action: Southeast of Intersection



Proposed Action: Culvert Replacement

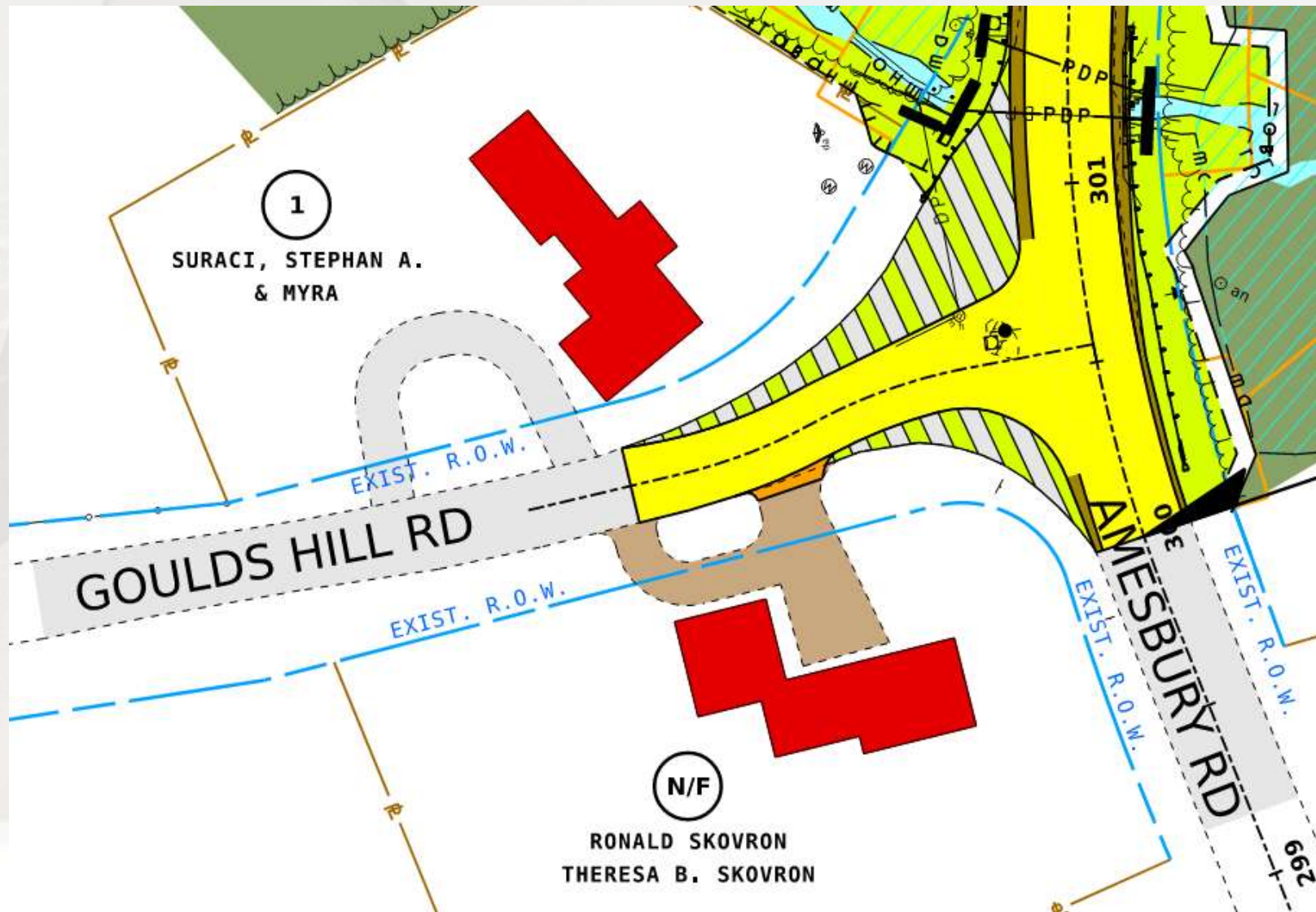
Inlet
(West)



Outlet
(East)



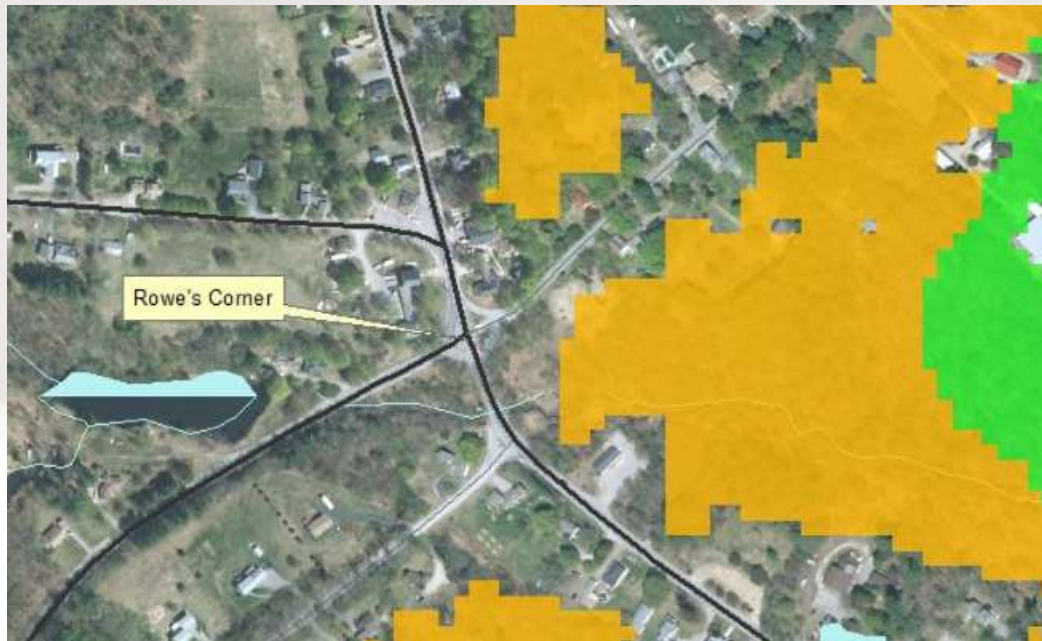
Proposed Action: Goulds Hill Reconfiguration



Environmental Review & Resources

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Review Project Area Environmental Resources
- Evaluate Project Alternatives
- Coordinate with Environmental Agencies
- Assess Impacts to Natural, Cultural and Socioeconomic Resources
- Avoid, Minimize and Mitigate Impacts
- Prepare an Environmental Document
 - The draft environmental document is available to the public tonight and will be posted on NHDOT's web page for the Newton 29617 project



Water Resources and Wetlands

- Wetlands
 - Palustrine Emergent and Palustrine Forested
 - Approximately 6235 SF Impacts Proposed
- One Unnamed Stream Passes Through Amesbury Culvert
- Will Apply for a new NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) Standard Dredge and Fill Wetland Permit for Proposed Impacts
 - Qualifies for the Army Corps Programmatic General Permit



Protected Species

- State Endangered/Threatened Species
 - No rare plants or natural communities identified
 - Protected turtles may occur in area, coordination with the NH Fish & Game Department is ongoing
- Federal Threatened Species
 - Northern Long-eared Bat
 - Coordination with US Fish & Wildlife Service Complete
 - Avoidance and Minimization Measures



Cultural Resources

- Coordinated with NH Division of Historical Resources
- Rowe's Corner determined to be a Historic District
- Proposed work determined to have No Adverse Effect
- No archeological sites or sensitivity identified



ROWE'S CORNER, 1903

Other Environmental Resources and Considerations

- Invasive Plants – to be managed in accordance with DOT's Best Management Practices for Control of Invasive Plant Species manual
- Limited Reuse Soils (LRS) – are roadside soils within DOT ROW and any ground asphalt. A Soils Management Plan will be required
- Water Quality –
 - Reducing impervious area
 - A stormwater treatment swale has been incorporated into the design
 - Best Management Practices will be used during construction to protect water quality
- Noise – proposed action determined to have negligible effect and the project is not a Type 1 project
- Air Quality – no negative impacts anticipated
- Conservation Land – minor impacts proposed



Bureau of Right-of-Way Acquisition Process

Bureau of Right-of-Way **Acquisition Process**

<https://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/rightofway/documents/public-projects-and-your-property.pdf>

**Written Statements and other exhibits may be
submitted to the:**

**Chairperson of the Commission
c/o Peter Stamnas, Director of Project Development
New Hampshire Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 483, Concord, NH 03302-0483**

Up to January 29th for Inclusion in the Official Record

Next Steps

- Begin Right-of-Way (ROW) Acquisition (2023)
- Project Advertises (July 16, 2024)
- Utility Relocations (Winter 2024/2025)
- Begin Construction (Spring/Summer 2025)
- Anticipated Completion (Summer 2026)

A photograph of a residential street intersection. A blue car is parked on the right side of the road. In the background, there are trees and a house. On the left side of the road, there is a sign that says "REGISTER NOW YOUTH SOCCER" and "bornYouthSoccer.org". The text "Questions/Comments?" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Questions/Comments?

Comments and Contact Information:

Project Website:

<https://www.nh.gov/dot/projects/newton29617/index.htm>

Contact:

Timothy Dunn, Project Manager

Email: Timothy.D.Dunn@dot.nh.gov

Telephone: 603-271-2171

Written Statements and other exhibits may be submitted to the:

Chairperson of the Commission

c/o Peter Stamnas, Director of Project Development

New Hampshire Department of Transportation

P.O. Box 483, Concord, NH 03302-0483

Up to January 29th for Inclusion in the Official Record